

NEWS RELEASE

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Mattoon Man Charged With Possession of Crack Cocaine

Urbana, Illinois -- Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that a federal grand jury has indicted today a Mattoon man, Martavious Koger, age 21, with possession of 5 or more grams of crack cocaine with intent to distribute it.

The indictment alleges that on October 6, 2005, Koger possessed 5 or more grams of a substance containing cocaine base (crack), with the intent to distribute it. Koger is currently charged in Coles County Circuit Court. That charge will be dismissed, and Koger's case will proceed in U.S. District Court.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

If convicted, Koger faces a mandatory minimum of 5 to 40 years imprisonment and up to a \$2 million fine. If Koger is found to have a previous felony drug convictions, he faces a mandatory minimum of 10 years to life imprisonment and up to a \$4 million fine.

The charge is the result of an investigation by the East Central Illinois Task Force. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Timothy A. Bass.

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